

citizens' political power could possibly be diluted, resulting in more favorable immigration and trade regulations for Mexico.

The state of California is already on its way to bankruptcy, and the inability to control illegal immigration is doing more than "some damage" to the state's weakening budget (Coleman 1). More than half of the Mexican undocumented workers do not have taxes withheld from their wages, and are able to take advantage of expensive taxpayer-supported government benefits (Izumi 1). The result of this has escalated economic troubles in California creating a "welfare and healthcare state" benefiting non-Californians (Coleman 1). According to the Auditor General, Mexican illegal immigration costs California taxpayers \$3 billion annually (Izumi 2). This cost estimate includes benefits like education, health-care, social services, and criminal justice.

If the United States allows this situation to propagate to other states, the entire country will likely have similar economic misfortunes as California. Evidence of this is already beginning to show. Harvard Professor George Borjas claims illegal immigration costs American taxpayers \$133 billion annually just in wage depression and job loss (Wooldridge 1).

Mexican illegal immigrants have monopolized jobs that don't require skilled labor—through acceptance of low wages and ethnic camaraderie—preventing unemployed Americans from pursuing and acquiring those jobs. Even though U.S. employers hire illegal immigrants for reduced wages, the average American wage still exceeds the average Mexican wage by a factor of ten—thereby creating an incentive for Mexicans to find jobs in the U.S. ("Wages and Poverty" 1). Also, communities of legal immigrants create immigration networks for illegal immigrants so they can conveniently enter the United States, and find jobs and housing easily ("Illegal Immigration" 1). These combined factors result in a situation where job competition prevents Americans from obtaining jobs that don't require skilled labor.

However, this monopoly could be intensified if the Bush administration follows through with the implementation of guest-worker programs. Under these programs, illegal immigrants would be granted a three-year renewable permit allowing them legal rights to work in the United States (Eccleston 2). Guest-worker programs were proposed in response to Vicente Fox's request for legalizing Mexican immigrants in the United States, and the assumed shortage of unskilled workers—especially in agriculture (Briggs 2). However, Mark Krikorian of The Washington Post, believes guest-worker programs cause severe social and economic problems for the U.S., as well as pose a threat to America's agricultural competitiveness. "By artificially inflating the supply of labor, the government's interference in the labor market keeps wages low, resulting in slowed mechanization, and stagnating productivity in fruit and vegetable production" (1). Two reasons why guest-worker programs intensify the monopoly illegal immigrants have on low paying-employment opportunities are: they increase the amount of illegal immigrants to the United States because many of the participants elect to stay in the U.S., and more illegal immigrants are encouraged to come in the hope that amnesty programs will be enacted again in the future (Briggs 2).

Throughout time, legal and illegal immigrants have crossed America's border in search of opportunity. Recently, however, Mexican illegal immigrants are migrating to the United States in increasingly larger numbers in order to take advantage of the opportunities America has to offer. The eco-

nomic, social, and political results of illegal immigration—in particular, the unique issues and problems posed by contemporary Hispanic immigration—are detrimental to the United States.

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TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN AMO HOUGHTON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the gentleman from New York, my colleague in the New York delegation, AMO HOUGHTON. After eighteen years of distinguished service, AMO is leaving the Congress. AMO was widely known as one of the most thoughtful and highly regarded members in the House from both sides of the aisle. He was also a tireless rep-

resentative for his constituents in the western portion of upstate New York.

As the fifth-ranking Republican on the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, AMO has been an invaluable member for the entire State of New York. After the tragedy and destruction of September 11, 2001, AMO was instrumental in enacting the Liberty Zone Act, which provided \$5 billion in tax breaks and incentives to help New Yorkers rebuild lower Manhattan.

He has also been a leader in furthering U.S. diplomacy around the world. He is a member of the International Relations Committee where he is Vice Chairman of its Subcommittee on Africa. He was appointed Co-Chairman of the Canada—U.S. Interparliamentary Group, serves as Chairman of the U.S. delegation to the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum, and was appointed by President George W. Bush to serve as the Congressional Delegate to the 58th General Assembly of the United Nations. Additionally, he sponsored the Clean Diamond Trade Act, which was signed into law last year. The bill requires that the President ban the import of rough diamonds coming from any country that has not made an effort to control their trade in diamonds in accordance with the internationally negotiated "Kimberley Process."

I would also like to recognize that AMO's service to our country goes all the way back to his youth. At just 18 years old, he volunteered for service in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was trained and deployed as part of a Marine Security Detachment on the cruiser USS *Macon* in the Atlantic theater. HOUGHTON was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps as a Private First Class in 1945.

Mr. Speaker, I think the record is clear that AMO HOUGHTON has been a devoted patriot whose service will be missed by his constituents as well as all of us who had the pleasure of working with him. We wish you all of the best in the future.

IN HONOR OF MR. PETE MANETTO'S SERVICE TO OUR NATION DURING D-DAY 1945

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, Pete Manetto served in 1st Signal Company, 1st Infantry Division, the Big Red One during the D-Day invasion (Red One). He shares his D-Day memories for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

I remember the stormy sea at 0600, as I climbed down the rope ladder of the U.S.S. *Chase*. I struggled with my balance nearly falling into the water, but managed to land in the landing craft. The sight of the armada on that morning was one of the most impressive, that I could recall. I turned and caught the sight of a nervous expression on the face of the coxswain as he pushed away from the beach. Shortly after this the craft was hit with enemy fire.

There we were on the beach with no one in control of us. We were met with the sight of rows of dead GIs; among them was a member of the MP, who I remember being very jovial the night before. There were many who were wounded, and the scene of the beach caused fear to appear on the faces of many of my acquaintances. I cannot remember being fired